

BEGINNING OF LAST WEEK

Daily Press Trophy Contest Is Drawing to a Close.

CERTIFICATES BEING HELD OUT

Table Really Is No Indication of How Candidates Stand—Mr. Gregory and Miss Dimmock Won Yesterday's Honor Certificates.

Yesterday marked the beginning of the last week of the contest in which the Daily Press offers diamond rings and gold watches to the most popular ladies and gentlemen connected with secret orders, societies, churches and other organizations. Interest in the contest is at its height, and there is every reason to believe that the number of ballots cast this week will exceed the total vote during the four weeks past.

Various candidates are said to be holding back voting certificates, therefore the table as it is printed daily is really no indication of the standing of the contestants. The

Sun sets 6:58 p. m.
High water .. 3:50 a. m., 4:30 p. m.
Low water .. 10:18 a. m., 10:44 p. m.

Calendar For Monday.

Sun rises 5:04 a. m.
Sun sets 6:59 p. m.
High water .. 5:00 a. m., 5:38 p. m.
Low water .. 11:34 a. m., 11:55 p. m.

Work on the St. Paul.

The big American Line steamer St. Paul which is having new boilers installed and undergoing a general overhauling and extensive repairs at the local shipyard will leave the yard for New York early next month. Work on the steamer is being rushed night and day.

Floated Out of Dock.

The Merchants & Miners steamer Chatham, which is undergoing extensive repairs and a general overhauling at the shipyard, was floated out of dry dock No. 2 yesterday morning. She will leave the yard this week.

Southern League.

At Nashville—Nashville 1; Atlanta 0.
At Birmingham—Birmingham 0; Montgomery 3.
At Little Rock—Little Rock 4; Memphis 2.
At Shreveport—Shreveport 0; New Orleans 1.

College Games.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 4.—The game between Georgetown and the University of Virginia today went to

SABBATH DAY SERVICES

Mr. Wellford Preaches Today After Absence of Three Months.

SUBJECTS ANNOUNCED BY PASTORS

Newport News Baptist Congregation
Worships at Casino for Last Time
Before Dedication of Reconstructed Edifice—Religious Notes.

Rev. E. T. Wellford, who has been absent for three months attending to his duties as chairman of the Norfolk and Hanover Presbyteries' joint Jamestown Exposition committee, is at home again and will occupy his pulpit at the First Presbyterian church this morning at 11 o'clock and this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Just fifteen years ago today Rev. Mr. Wellford came here to become pastor of this church, which at that time was little more than a mission. During the years that have gone by the church has become one of the largest and best organized in the State, and for several years the congregation has worshipped in a fine stone edifice.

The return of the pastor is hailed with delight by the church. Probably no pastor was ever more beloved by his congregation than is Mr. Wellford.

Newport News Baptist.

The congregation of the Newport News Baptist church will worship in the Casino building today for the last time. Services will be held at the usual hours, preaching by the pastor, Rev. J. W. Porter, D. D. Next Sunday the splendid, reconstructed and improved church on Twenty-ninth street will be dedicated. Rev. J. B. Hawthorne, D. D., of Richmond, will preach the dedicatory sermon, and besides Dr. Porter, three former pastors, Rev. M. L. Wood, of Huntington, W. Va.; Rev. A. B. Rudd, of Porto Rico, and Rev. C. C. Cox, of Baltimore, will participate in the exercises.

St. Paul's Episcopal.

At St. Paul's Episcopal church today, the fifth Sunday after Easter, services will be held as follows: Celebration of the blessed holy sacrament, with absolution, at 7:30 a. m.; Sunday school at 9:30 a. m.; Bible classes at 9:45 a. m.; anti-communion service, sermon and celebration of the blessed holy sacrament at 11 a. m., with Rev. James W. Ashton, of Ocean, N. Y., as celebrant. Rev. Charles Harrison, deacon, and the pastor, Rev. A. O. Sykes, sub-deacon; short evening prayer with sermon by Rev. Harry W. Jones, D. D., chaplain of the battleship Minnesota, at 7:30 p. m.

East End Christian.

Rev. M. W. Butler, pastor of the East End Christian church, will preach today on the following subjects: Morning, "Three Pictures"; evening, "The Lord's Supper."

Trinity Lutheran.

The pastor, Rev. E. A. Shenk, will preach at the Trinity Lutheran church this morning and evening at the usual hours.

Trinity Methodist.

At the Trinity M. E. church today the pastor, Rev. W. Asbury Christian, will preach on the following subjects: 11 a. m., "The Preaching of the Cross"; 8 p. m., "He Stopped to Conquer; But Failed."

Thirtieth Street Christian.

Rev. W. R. Motley, pastor of the Thirtieth Street Christian church, will preach at the Y. M. C. A. hall this morning and evening at the usual hours. His subjects will be: Morning, "The Gospel of Home Land," the sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered after the sermon; evening, "Jesus Only."

Calvary Baptist.

Special rally services will be held at the Calvary Baptist church this morning at 11 o'clock. An interesting program, of which music will be a feature, will be rendered. At 8 o'clock this evening, the pastor will preach on the subject, "Sin."

St. Vincent's Catholic.

Services will be held at St. Vincent's Catholic church today as follows: First mass at 8 o'clock; second mass at 10:30 o'clock; Sunday school at 3 o'clock; vespers and benediction of the blessed sacrament at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, Rev. Father Froll, will conduct all services.

Second Presbyterian.

Rev. J. A. Hughes, of Norfolk, will preach at the Second Presbyterian church this morning at 11 o'clock and this evening at 8 o'clock.

Grace Episcopal.

At Grace Episcopal church today Rev. Henry J. Greiger will preach at 11 o'clock a. m. There will be Sunday school at 9:30 o'clock this morning.

Twenty-fourth Street Christian.

Rev. D. S. Henkel, pastor of the Twenty-fourth Street Church of Christ, will preach today on the following subjects: 11 a. m., "Doubting"; 8 p. m., "The Lost Sheep." "The Ninety and Nine," illustrated with stereopticon views, will be sung by Miss Crosser during the evening service. Mr. G. W. Blich will lead the Relief Association at 3 o'clock.

Riverview Baptist.

Rev. R. B. Sanford will preach at the Riverview Baptist church this evening at 7:45 o'clock. There will be Sunday school at 2:30 o'clock.

Will Deliver Address.

Rev. J. W. Porter, D. D., pastor of

STANDING OF CONTESTANTS

LADIES.

Mrs. M. W. Gayle, Bethel Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy 15,282
Miss Cora Dimmock, St. Paul's Episcopal Sunday School 8,438
Mrs. P. B. Cross, Lady Macabees 3,288
Mrs. J. B. Clinedinst, Ladies' Aid Society, Trinity M. E. Church 2,459
Mrs. Elbert Nexsen, Joseph Charles Auxiliary, Newport News General Hospital 2,146
Mrs. Geo. W. Nelms, John W. Daniel Chapter D. of C. 1,366
Mrs. R. W. Powell, Lady Macabees 77
Mrs. E. T. Ivy, Second Baptist church 42

GENTLEMEN.

Wm. R. Rogers, Bremond Lodge, No. 241, A. F. & A. M. 11,454
E. L. Cunningham, Newport News Lodge No. 315, B. P. O. E. 4,994
H. B. Gregory, Rector's Club 4,624
Abo Horwitz, Newport News Lodge, No. 315, B. P. O. E. 364
A. L. Evans, Independent Order Odd Fellows 65
W. F. H. Enos, Peninsula Lodge, No. 278, A. F. & A. M. 42
M. J. O'Connell, Knights of Columbus 30
F. C. Blvins, Knights of Pythias 29
Rev. Arthur O. Sykes, D. D., Rector St. Paul's P. E. Church 22
E. B. Cameron, Y. M. C. A. 18

friends of the candidates are very much in earnest over the affair now and are working with a determination to win.

Miss Cora Dimmock and Mr. H. B. Gregory received the largest number of votes yesterday and were awarded three honor certificates for the day. Miss Dimmock polled more than twice as many votes during the day than any other contestant.

Several of the candidates are gradually drawing near the figures of the leaders and, it is believed, if all the certificates that are being held out should be voted at once, there would be a very different tale to tell. Mrs. Gayle yesterday passed the 15,000 mark and is still far ahead of the next highest on the list.

SHIPPING REPORT

Saturday, May 4, 1907.

Arrived.

Steamer Therese Horn (Ger.), Hulsch, New York—to Berwind-White Coal Company in ballast.

Steamer Hopemount (Br.), Hanard, New Orleans—to Chesapeake & Ohio Coal Agency Company for bunker coal.

Steamer Peruviana (Br.), Mason, Fernandina, Fla.—to White Oak Coal Company for bunker coal. Vessel entered by Furness, Withy & Company, Ltd.

Schooner Rachel W. Stevens, Stevens, New York—to C. H. Arnal in ballast.

Schooner Loring C. Ballard, Kelly, Allens Point—to New River Consolidated Coal Company in ballast.

Barge Knickerbocker from Providence—to C. H. Arnal, in ballast.

Barge Scully from Providence—to C. H. Arnal in ballast.

Cleared.

Steamer Fashoda (Br.), Watt, Kingston, Jamaica—Berwind-White Coal Company.

Sailed.

Steamers Cayo Manzanillo (Br.), Cowdy, Antwerp; Castano (Br.), Penwill, Liverpool; Hopemount (Br.), Hamburg; Peruviana (Br.), Mason, St. Petersburg.

Schooners Sarah W. Lawrence, Moore, Boston; Maria O. Teel, Davis, Bangor; Maude Sherwood, Studley, Gardner; John A. Beckerman, Rogers, Allens Point; William P. Hood, Smith, Tiverton, N. C.

Marine Notes.

The British steamer Fashoda cleared yesterday for Kingston, Jr., with a cargo of 3,900 tons of coal, valued at \$10,725. She will sail Monday.

The German steamer Therese Horn arrived in port yesterday from New York to load a full cargo of coal here for Havana, Cuba. She will take about 4,600 tons.

The seven-masted schooner Thomas W. Lawson was floated into dry dock No. 2, at the shipyard, yesterday morning to have her hull below the waterline cleaned and painted.

Cereal Exports.

The cereal exports from this port during the week ending yesterday were as follows:

Flour 15,259 barrels.
Corn 102,858 bushels.

Calendar For Today.

Sun rises 5:05 a. m.

THEATRICAL

Small audiences saw a very poor company in "What Happened to Jones" at the Academy of Music yesterday afternoon and last night.

TO DOUBLE-TRACK SIBERIA.

Russia Finally Decides to Improve Railroad to Manchuria.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 4.—The council of ministers has decided to double-track the Siberian Railway. The double-tracking of the railway has been under consideration for years and the project has been resolved upon and formally abandoned more than once. The plan now is understood to be to double-track the entire road to the Manchurian frontier, except at Lake Balkal, where increased ferry service is to be provided equivalent to at double track around the lake.

The first section to be double-tracked is that between Atchinsk and Irkutsk, the cost of which work is estimated at \$21,480,000. Political convicts are to be the laborers.

This is the last week of the Daily Press Diamond Ring Contest. Send in your paid-in-advance subscriptions at once if you want to help your favorite.

FINE HOME FOR SALE.

8-room dwelling near Jefferson avenue, on 2 lots, only \$2100. Just \$200 cash and \$20 per month. Hot water and nice plumbing. Convenient to business section. Ask about it. SOMMERVILLE TRUST CO., Incorporated. 5-5-3t.

NEAR WEST AVENUE.

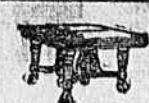
7-room house, with lot, only \$3700, for quick sale. See it now. SOMMERVILLE TRUST CO., Inc. 5-5-3t.

This is the last week of the Daily Press Diamond Ring Contest. Send in your paid-in-advance subscriptions at once if you want to help your favorite.

ON 25TH STREET.

Cozy house, with bath and sewer, and on 1-1/2 lots; only \$1250. Cash payment just \$200, balance about like rent. Nice flowers and fruit and many other attractions. You will like it. Quit renting now. SOMMERVILLE TRUST CO., Inc.

20 Per Cent. Discount for Cash, for Month of May



\$4.50, \$5.50, \$6.50,
\$7.50 up to \$35.00.



See our Extra-
cold, guaranteed
Couches, \$15.00 up.
Steel construction.



50c to \$10.00.
Splendid values,
all shapes and
sizes.



50c kind 40c
45c kind 35c
40c kind 30c
30c kind 25c
China and Japanese; just received
a new shipment.



\$1.00 down,
50c a week.

THE HARVEY
FURNITURE Co

226 28th St.

THE PEOPLES STORE

The Home of Low Prices and
Satisfied Customers. We never
misrepresent—you buy what we
sell and you get what you buy.



\$1.50 to \$10.00.

Refrigerators,

Hammocks,

Lace Curtains,

Portiers,

Gasoline Stoves,

Ice Boxes,

Rugs,

Art Squares,

All Prices.

Less Expenses Make Better Values. You
Always Get Your Money's Worth at Harveys



Go-carts Baby Carriages,
all kinds of Folding
Carts; all prices; good
values.

CREDIT
TO
ALL

the Newport News Baptist church, has accepted an invitation to deliver the address at the annual memorial day exercises to be held at the National Soldiers' Home on May 30.

MARRIAGES IN MEXICO.

How They Are Arranged—Meeting of the Lovers—Status of the Divorced.

The average Mexican does not think of marriage until he has at his disposal a sum more than moderate, if he happens to belong to the higher strata of society, nor until it is consented to by the unanimous vote of every one of the members of the family. Instances can be mentioned of two young persons who have never met each other and in whose minds the idea of matrimony has never yet entered, says the Mexican Herald, becoming man and wife through the whim of their parents.

It may be that the family of the bridegroom looks upon his matrimonial union with a certain girl who may happen to be the daughter of a magnate as the means of avoiding bankruptcy; it may be that the father of the bride considers her alliance with the son of a politician as an adroit measure in preventing the downfall of the head of the house, or in point of trivial circumstances, it may be that a marriage is brought about with the object of reducing the yearly tax by the father of the bridegroom or that of the bride.

The motives given, and those never given, for the prearrangement of such alliances very according to conditions and always in relation to the position occupied by the two families. The frequent toxicity of the proceedings in the arrangement of marriages is, fortunately, giving way to a more liberal and conscientious behavior toward their sons and daughters. But it should also be added that the custom has by no means disappeared, for cases of this nature could be counted by the score in almost every city in the Republic.

When, without the knowledge or consent of their parents, two young persons become engaged, the parish priest is requested to call on the bride's father for the purpose of making known to him the designs of the bridegroom. A temporary objection at this point may practically upset the plans of the young candidates to marriage, as the opposition of the father means a delay of two years or more.

During that period the affectionate lover parades the street night and day in the hope of seeing his sweetheart; a thunderstorm would not be sufficient to drive him from his retreat under a balcony or near a telegraph pole. I have seen a lover talking to a pretty girl through an iron barred window while a terrific rain-storm swept over the city with great fury as quietly and naturally as if balmy spring weather had prevailed.

But the Mexican lover enjoys the novelty of the affair, and far from making any attempt to obtain permission to call on his sweetheart at her own home, he is ready to undertake any task, however difficult, in order to speak to her alone, for a young lady is seldom allowed to receive men without at least two or three members of the family being present.

The general topics of conversation about extreme heat, beautiful weather and the like are in such cases strictly in order, and the suggestion is never made to take "her" out for a stroll or a short drive—that would get the house on fire. A moderately large bank account may enable the visitor to invite her family to attend the opera, but this means that all chances for the exchange of amorous expressions between the lovers are lost, for it is his duty to offer his arm to "mother" and wait upon her until their return from the theatre, aside from securing seats for every member of the family, sometimes including the servants.

The divorce laws now in force in the United States have been severely

and repeatedly criticised in private by both men and women of the higher class in this country, on the ground that man and woman, once united in matrimony, ought never to separate.

The theory is too deeply rooted in their minds to permit a man or a woman to resort to the court of divorce in Mexico, but it is never adhered to as a principle; it is simply a question of self-respect. The separation of husband and wife excludes both from high society, and even their sons and daughters are made to feel the effects of public scorn; sometimes it bars the son or daughter from matrimony, while social intercourse becomes impossible for the divorced husband and wife.

CASTRO WILL RETIRE.

Health Compels Trip to Switzerland—May Not Go Back.

President Cipriano Castro of Venezuela, according to information received, from two independent sources, is planning to retire from office on May 23. Although this date might suggest here some other cause for his retirement, the reason is his continued ill health. He will seek recuperation in the mountains of Switzerland. General Juan Vicente Gomez, First Vice-President, will succeed General Castro.

President Castro has been in poor health for nearly a year, and while he has continued nominally as chief executive, he has given little attention to the government affairs. About three months ago a serious operation was performed on him at Macuto, a seaside resort near La Guayra. He was not expected to recover, but in a few weeks was well enough to be taken to Caracas. He has not fully regained his health, however, and has accepted the advice of friends to seek restoration in the Swiss mountains.

The date reported to have been set by Castro, May 23, is the anniversary of his highest achievement. On that day eight years ago he struck the final blow against the Andrade government. That was the day he rose to power, and he has chosen the same date to make his exit. On that day also the Venezuelan Congress will convene, and it will be asked to act on the retirement of President Castro.

It is understood that he is not laying down permanently the power which he has wielded for eight years, but only until he returns from his sojourn abroad, although the trip is for an indefinite period. During his sickness some bitter feeling was engendered between President Castro and Vice-President Gomez because the latter, who, according to the constitution, was President pro tem, was not permitted to exercise the functions of that office. Instead, Castro delegated his power to his close friends in the Cabinet and to Dr. Revenga, his Secretary General, who was also his physician. There was even evidence that Castro was preparing to keep General Gomez out, and to place General Francisco L. Alcantara, President of the State of Aragua, in the Presidency to succeed him if he died. There has since been a reconciliation between Castro and Gomez, and the latter will be left in charge.

It is regarded by local Venezuelans as unlikely that President Castro will ever return to power if he retires, and, so far as about a dozen political exiles in this city are concerned, it is "a consummation devoutly to be wished." They left Venezuela because of their opposition to "El Calito," and will welcome the opportunity to go back home.

A CUBAN ARMY OPPOSED.

Objections to Plan for a Standing Force of 12,000 Men.

The plan of a Cuban standing army of 12,000 men, as suggested by the General Staff of the American army, is most attractive to that element of the Cuban people which is fond of gold lace and regalia, but among the conservative elements the plan excites

less interest than the preceding one to recruit the Rural Guard to 12,000 men.

The latter plan was vigorously opposed even by the Liberals, who, it was supposed, would have jumped at the opportunity opened by such a lavish distribution of patronage, and while the standing army scheme, evidently has been framed to meet their objections the apparent impossibility of its accomplishment has caused it to be received with something similar to derision.

Governor Magoon, who has not yet been advised of any intention of the War Department to adopt the program of the General Staff, does not believe it possible to recruit in the island of Cuba 12,000 soldiers who will come up to the standard of the United States army. This view is fully shared by Cubans experienced in military affairs, who point out that the United States today has such difficulty in obtaining satisfactory recruits for its relatively small establishment of 60,000 men that it cannot keep the ranks of the army of pacification even reasonably full.

How then, say they, can Cuba be expected to raise a force of 12,000 men which, in proportion to population, would be equivalent to more than half a million soldiers in the United States? Where, it is asked, are to be found the officers to command this force? While it is true that Cuba is richer in colonels than Kentucky and rivals Hayti in the matter of generals, few of these warlords have any knowledge of military tactics other than those of the bush. To insure a supply of trained officers a military academy, a Cuban West Point, they say, is indispensable. This is in line with a recent proposal strongly urged on Governor Magoon by General Estenez, a prominent Liberal, that at least two schools be established to form the nucleus of a Cuban Annapolis in which to rear the Farraguts, Nelsons and Togos of future Cuban fleets.

Still more serious objections to the scheme are that it at once imposes on the republic the burden of a huge military establishment, which will absorb at least one-third of the revenues, and diminution of the already thin ranks of labor by just so many men as are called upon to bear arms.

Apart from these military and economic objections, there is the question of what necessity exists for the creation of a standing army. What, it is asked, is this army to do, assuming that it is possible to raise it? If the force is designed for insurance against foreign aggression, what becomes of the obligation of the United States to preserve inviolate the soil of Cuba? If, on the other hand, the army is designed to maintain whatever government may be in power when the American troops evacuate the island, Cubans predict that it will be in effect a pretorian guard, capable of use as a terrible engine of oppression in the hands of a despotic President, and ever ready to drive one tyrant from power and elevate another, as the interests of the military caste may dictate.

That the plan does not excite grave apprehensions among Cubans of any faction is due to the impression that it is merely a tentative proposal, and that the manifest obstacles in the way of its accomplishment render it entirely unlikely to receive serious consideration from the American government. Probably a moderate increase of the rural guard, now about fifteen hundred men below its authorized strength of five thousand, would be regarded by most Cubans as a satisfactory establishment for the armed forces of the republic.—New York Tribune.

Decollete.

"Yes, she was at the ball last night."
"Dressed in the height of fashion, I presume?"
"Rather I should say she was dressed in the height of fashion."—Houston Post.